

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0052] of the application as filed with the following amended paragraph:

[0052] The implementation of the preferred embodiment for the present invention enables fast character recognition. With reference to FIG. 9, the recognizer does nothing until it detects a pen-down event 1001. If the down event is in an inflated corner 1003, then it deflates the corners 1005, and begins queuing up all the points over which the stylus moves until the stylus is lifted 1006-1007. No recognition or filtering is done during the stylus movement to maximize the number of movement points queued. Once the stylus is lifted, the recognizer notes the first corner where the recognition started 1008, and then loops through the point queue and hit-tests the points against the deflated corner regions, collecting the sequence of corners 1009-1012. The result of this loop is a 32-bit integer value representing the sequence in which the corners were hit. This integer is assembled efficiently: when a new corner is hit, the existing integer sequence is bit-shifted to the left and the new corner is "appended" with bitwise-OR. This sequence is then sent to a lookup function 1013 that finds the character corresponding to the corner sequence, if any 1014, by comparing the determined sequence of corner hits to a library of stored sequences of corner hits which is representational of a printed alphabet. If a result is a defined character, the character is output at 1015 and the process ends at 1016.